



House of Representatives

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COALITION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER—JUNE 2014

TOP ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STORIES

- **Obama Aide Previews Carbon-Emissions Rules for Democrats**—The Democrats [who met with John Podesta](#) are key to rallying party votes in the House. They included Co-Chairs **Gerry Connolly** and **Paul Tonko**, Vice-Chair **Doris Matsui**, Climate Task Force Chair **Scott Peters**, and Members **Henry Waxman** and **Chris Van Hollen**.
- **EPA Proposes Cutting Carbon Dioxide Emissions 30% by 2030**—Under the draft rule, EPA would let states meet the standard with different approaches mixing four options including energy efficiency, shifting from coal to natural gas, investing in renewable energy, and making power plant upgrades.
- **U.S. Climate Change Report Warns of Regional Impacts**—The federal government released its third report of climate change in the U.S. The report, called the National Climate Assessment, makes clear that climate change is a present-day issue and a growing threat.
- **Amid Pipeline and Climate Debate, Energy-Efficiency Bill Is Derailed**—A bipartisan bill to encourage energy efficiency in buildings died in the Senate, derailed by the contentious debate over the Keystone XL pipeline and President Obama's plans to issue new climate change regulations.
- **Drought, Hurricane Bigger Threat to World's Top Companies**—Drought, hurricanes and rising seas are becoming more significant threats to the world's biggest companies and the risk is accelerating.
- **Melt of Key Antarctic Glaciers "Unstoppable"**—A portion of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet that is home to some of the fastest-flowing glaciers on the continent appears to have entered a state of retreat and melt that is "unstoppable," two new studies have found.

SEEC ENDORSED LEGISLATION

H.R. 4092, Streamlining Energy Efficiency for Schools Act (Cartwright)
H.R. 4162, Job Creation through Energy Efficient Manufacturing Act (Cartwright)

To learn more about SEEC endorsements or to see a full list of endorsed legislation, please visit our [website](#).

SEEC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

SEEC Welcomes First-Ever Carbon Pollution Standard—"We already have limits on toxins like lead, mercury, and arsenic. Carbon pollution should be no different and as of today it no longer is." Individual member activity: Co-Chairs **Gerry Connolly**, **Steve Israel**, and **Paul Tonko**, Vice-Chairs **Doris Matsui**, **Rush Holt**, **Chellie Pingree**, and **Jared Polis**, Climate Task Force Chair **Scott Peters**, Energy Task Force Chair **Jim Langevin**, Members **Earl Blumenauer**, **Lois Capps**, **Matt Cartwright**, **Katherine Clark**, **Susan Davis**, **John Delaney**, **Keith Ellison**, **Raul Grijalva**, **Denny Heck**, **Jared Huffman**, **Derek Kilmer**, **Annie Kuster**, **Barbara Lee**, **Zoe Lofgren**, **Alan Lowenthal**, **Jim McDermott**, **Jim McGovern**, **George Miller**, **Jim Moran**, **David Price**, **Mike Quigley**, **Carol Shea-Porter**, **John Sarbanes**, **Jackie Speier**, **Niki Tsongas**, **Chris Van Hollen**, **Henry Waxman**, and **Peter Welch**.

EERE, SEEC Meet—SEEC gathered over lunch with Dr. Dave Danielson, head of DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), to discuss budgets, appropriations, and EERE's role in the Climate Action Plan.

SEEC WRRDA Extreme Weather Provision Adopted—Co-Chairs **Gerry Connolly**, **Steve Israel**, **Paul Tonko**, Vice-Chair **Rush Holt**, and Rep. Peter King [successfully urged conferees](#) to adopt language to study the risks extreme weather to infrastructure and provide recommendations to reduce their impact.

Calling out Climate Research Cuts—Vice-Chair **Rush Holt** joined by Co-Chair **Paul Tonko**, Vice-Chair **Jared Polis**, Members **Alan Lowenthal** and **Matt Cartwright** took to the House floor to highlight the importance of NOAA's climate research, cut 37.5% in the House FY15 CJS appropriations bill.

Sounding the Alarm on Climate—SEEC co-sponsored a Congressional climate action rally featuring hundreds of attendees. [Speeches](#) by Co-Chair **Paul Tonko**, Climate Task Force Chair **Scott Peters**, Members **Niki Tsongas**, **Jim Moran**, **John Sarbanes**, **Lois Capps**, **Barbara Lee**, **Mike Honda**, **Alan Lowenthal**, and **Henry Waxman**. Pictures on our [Facebook page](#).

Briefing on Warming Highlights Military, Health Impacts—SEEC and the Senate Climate Action Task Force brought science and national security experts to Capitol Hill to [brief staffers](#) on the toll climate change is already taking on public well-being, at home and around the world.

Statement on National Climate Assessment—"Today's report confirms what we have long known: that climate change is happening, and it is happening now. Our children deserve the bright future we promised when we brought them into this world. We have a moral responsibility to fulfill that promise."

TOP ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT FACTS

- ◆ **\$47 Million:** Amount of grant funding DOE has pledged to each of the 3 offshore wind projects located in New Jersey, Oregon, and Virginia.
- ◆ **600:** Number of state and local officials who wrote to President Obama in support of carbon pollution standards.
- ◆ **\$71 Trillion:** Fuel savings through 2050 with a global shift to a cleaner, more efficient energy economy.
- ◆ **\$1.8 Billion:** Cost estimates for the 2014 wildfire season, almost \$500 million more than what's available.

SEEC MEMBER TWEET OF THE MONTH

Rep. **Mike Honda** @RepMikeHonda Human-induced [#climatechange](#) is overwhelming & undeniable --> Pass my Climate Change Edu Act [#ActOnClimate](#) [#p2](#) <http://youtu.be/iR8dEE4kqmM>

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